IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of : SPROAT, Martin

Serial No. : 10/656,554

Filed : May 9, 2003

For : Improved Network Service Provider Architecture

In Communications Network

Examiner : NGUYEN, Steven H D

Art Unit : 2419

Customer No. : 23644

Confirmation No. : 8188

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 30, 2009

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

In response to the further and final Office Action mailed April 30, 2009, the applicant makes the following submission: